IN THE CLAIMS:

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Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

arranging elements of a user interface in a tree structure reflecting a topography of the elements in a process control system;

assigning at least one <u>first</u> input window to each <u>a first</u> element, the <u>first</u> input window having a plurality of <u>first</u> attributes corresponding to a <u>first</u> target apparatus controllable in the process control system;

assigning at least one second input window to a second element, the second input window having a plurality of second attributes corresponding to a second target apparatus controllable in the process control system;

storing a current arrangement of the tree structure as a project;

storing a list of all windows and the corresponding attributes opened during a current operation as an operating session;

restoring a state of the elements based on the project and the operating session when loading the process control system; and

displaying values measured by the target apparatus in the input window,

wherein the plurality of first attributes of the at least one first input window

comprises monitoring data of the first target apparatus,

wherein the plurality of second attributes of the at least one second input window comprises parameterization data for setting of the second target apparatus.

- 2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising storing a position of the input windows during the current operation.
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising storing a communication status, indicating an online or offline status of the elements.

- 4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising storing a state of the associated user interface of the respective input windows.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein only distinct communication links to distinct nodes of the project are selected to be restored.
- 6. (Canceled)
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the storing of the input windows opened during operation of the process control system includes transmitting the input windows to a handling software in an XML string.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising querying a state of the input windows opened during operation of the process control system.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the project and the states of the elements of the project are stored in project files.
- 10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein session information is stored in the project or references to the project including session information are stored.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising verifying, upon opening the project, whether session information is present, and if present, a last present view of the project with all opened dialogs is restored and all connections of a last session are restored.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising managing a list of sessions and names of active sessions for each project and storing the names of active sessions in a non-volatile project directory.

- 13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising displaying a dialog during loading of the project, in which the names of all available sessions for the project are offered for selection.
- 14. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

arranging elements of a user interface in a tree structure reflecting a topography of the elements in a process control system;

assigning each element to at least one input window having a plurality of attributes corresponding to a target apparatus controllable in the process control system;

storing, by a handling software, a current arrangement of the tree structure as a project;

storing, by the handling software, a list of all windows and corresponding attributes opened during a current operation as an operating session, the attributes including at least one of a position and a communication status indicating one of an online status and an offline status of the user interface of the input window;

restoring a state of the elements based on the project and the operating session when loading the process control system; and

displaying values measured by the target apparatus in the input window.

15. (Previously Presented) A system comprising a host PC and at least one target apparatus connected to the host PC via a bus system, the host PC comprising a display displaying a process control system which comprises elements of a user interface in a form of a tree structure comprising nodes, each node providing at least one input window having a plurality of attributes corresponding to the target apparatus, the host PC further comprising a memory storing an arrangement of the tree structure as a project, and a list of all windows and the corresponding attributes opened during operation as an operating session, the operating session stored in the memory being automatically restored during reloading of the process control system on the host PC, each input window displaying values measured by the target apparatus.

- 16. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein the memory stores a position of the input windows.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein the memory stores a communication status indicating one of an online status and an offline status of the input window.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein the memory stores a state of the user interface associated to respective input windows.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 15, wherein the memory stores several operating sessions for each project.
- 20. (Cancelled)
- 21. (Cancelled)
- 22. (Cancelled)
- 23. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 15, wherein at least one of the input windows further displays at least one diagnosis message[[s]].
- 24. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 15, comprising a session manager managing a list of sessions for each project.